

REMARKS

Applicants have added new claims 30-47, which provide further embodiments of the untwisted wrapped singles yarns of the present invention.

The examiner has objected to the specification for failing to cross reference the parent case. Applicants respectfully submit that this ground of objection has been overcome by the instant amendment which incorporates a cross reference to the parent case, U.S. patent application serial number 09/723,643, now U.S. Patent No. 6,658,835.

The examiner has rejected claims 27-28 under 35 U.S.C. 103 over South African Patent ZA 98/8628 (hereinafter ZA '628) in view of US Pat. No. 5,119,512 to Dunbar et al. The examiner takes the position that it would have been obvious for one skilled in the art to combine these references to produce the presently claimed invention. Applicants respectfully disagree. While both cited references relate generally to fiber formation, it is submitted that there is *no* teaching or suggestion in either of these references which would lead one skilled in the art to combine ZA 98/8628 and Dunbar et al. in an effort to devise the presently claimed invention.

Applicant would like to notify the Examiner that reference ZA 98/8628 is commonly owned and related to the present application, as each of ZA 98/8628 and the present application share the same sole inventor, Charles Edward Bowers. The Examiner is also notified that the United States patent equivalent to ZA 98/8628 is issued U.S. patent 6,682,618.

The presently claimed invention relates to the manufacture of Saxony carpet. More particularly, the invention pertains to Saxony carpets which are formed using *untwisted wrapped singles yarns*. As discussed on page 4, lines 1-3 of the present application, the current invention is an improvement over the inventions disclosed in South African

Patent 98/8628 and U.S. patent application serial number 08/933,822, now U.S. patent 6,682,618, commonly owned.

Applicants respectfully urge that the presently claimed invention differs from the applied reference because ZA 98/8628 *fails to teach* untwisted wrapped singles yarns, particularly comprising a base synthetic fiber wrapper yarn containing heat activated binder material. These features result in the formation of yarns having greater texture retention, tip definition, bulk and wear resistance than those taught by ZA 98/8628. Further, the presently claimed invention allows for the elimination of the slow and expensive steps of twisting, plying and re-twisting of a singles yarn previously necessary for the formation of Saxony carpets.

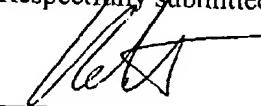
The examiner asserts that ZA 98/8628 teaches an untwisted wrapped singles yarn in Example 3. Applicants urge that this is not the case. ZA 98/8628 teaches a generic wrapped yarn where a heat activated binder material is incorporated in a wrapper yarn, which yarn is then *twist set* under high temperatures in standard twisting processes. As shown in Example 3 of this cited reference, the fibers of ZA 98/8628 retain good properties after being subjected to common high temperature *twist setting procedures*. In contrast, the claimed invention is directed solely to the formation of Saxony carpet using untwisted wrapped singles yarns that are not twist set. Therefore, the carpet of the claimed invention and a carpet formed via the ZA 98/8628 reference have significant structural differences.

The examiner goes on to combine ZA 98/8629 with Dunbar et al., stating that Dunbar discloses polyester, polyolefin, and polyamide wrapper fibers. Dunbar relates to the formation of high-strength yarns for jacket material and the like. Dunbar does not relate at all to the formation of carpets or carpet fibers. In fact, the word "carpet" is not found anywhere in Dunbar's disclosure. While polyester, polyolefin, and polyamide wrapper fibers may be disclosed in Dunbar, it is respectfully urged that one skilled in the art would not have been inspired to combine this clothing fiber reference with ZA 98/8629 in formulating the presently claimed invention. Furthermore, it is urged that since neither

ZA 98/8629 nor Dunbar et al. teaches or suggests a Saxony carpet comprising an untwisted wrapped singles yarn as required by the present claims, the present claims would fail to be obviated even upon a hypothetical combining of these claims. For all of the above reasons, it is respectfully urged that claims 27 and 28 are patentable over the cited references, and the rejection under 35 U.S.C.103 should be withdrawn.

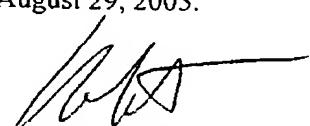
The undersigned respectfully requests re-examination of this application and believes it is now in condition for allowance. Such action is requested. If the examiner believes there is any matter which prevents allowance of the present application, it is requested that the undersigned be contacted to arrange for an interview which may expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,



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I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office (FAX No. 571-273-8300) on August 29, 2005.



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